

STATE OF MISSOURI

Mel Carnahan, Governor • David A. Shorr, Director

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

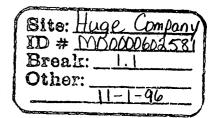
P.O. Box 176 Jefferson City, MO 65102-0176 (314)751-4422

NOV 1 1996

The Honorable Rita D. Days 3083 Bellerive Drive St. Louis, MO 63121

RE: Huge Company Site

Dear Representative Days:



The Missouri Department of Natural Resources' (DNR) Hazardous Waste Program (HWP) completed the Preliminary Assessment/Site Inspection of the Huge Company site, located at 7625 Page Boulevard, St. Louis, Missouri, on June 12, 1996. This report was completed under a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region VII.

The investigation documented the presence of metals, pesticides, herbicides, and volatile organics, both on-site and in residential yards. From the results, the primary contaminants of concern are chlordane and arsenic, which are present at elevated levels. These samples were collected from soil/fill portions of the site, along a railroad grade with unrestricted access. A total of four residences on Mallard Drive in Hanley Hills were sampled. Chlordane was detected in three of the four residences sampled. The residential properties are adjacent to and north of the site. The Sunshine Preschool, in Pagedale, was sampled and results do not indicate any contamination, but the playground is within 150 feet of contaminated soil.

On May 1, 1996, the HWP requested the Missouri Department of Health (DOH) to prepare an expedited Risk Assessment, for arsenic and chlordane in surface soils, with regard to the affected residences and passers-by in a commercial/industrial area bordered by residential areas of Hanley Hills, Pagedale, and Vinita Terrace. Also, on May 1, the HWP requested EPA to evaluate the Huge Company site for a Time Critical Removal Action. Time Critical Removals are short-term actions designed to protect the public from threats to public health, welfare or the environment. This type of removal was recommended due to the high levels of chlordane and arsenic in surface soils, and the close proximity of residences and a daycare.

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The health assessment completed by DOH demonstrates that the levels of arsenic and chlordane, on-site, currently pose a threat to residents, nearby residents, passers-by, and the Sunshine Preschool. This information was forwarded to EPA immediately upon the HWP receiving the document.

DOH is currently conducting a Technical Consult, which will recommend how much and what type of additional sampling that will be needed to assess the soil exposure risk to the residents. This consult is scheduled to be completed in November 1996 and will be forwarded to DNR and EPA Region VII.

The following was provided by Jim Augustyn, the EPA On-Scene Coordinator assigned to the Huge Company site. Currently, the Draft Action Memo for the Time Critical Removal Action is going through the internal review process. After internal review, the draft document will be sent to EPA Regional Counsel, ATSDR, and DNR for comment. Upon completion of internal and external reviews, EPA Regional Counsel will begin the negotiation process with the Huge Company. If Huge Company refuses to address the work outlined in the Draft Action Memo, the Regional Administrator will sign the Action Memo and EPA will immediately initiate Phase I of the cleanup. The Draft Action Memo addresses the contaminated soil on-site and sampling of the residential yards. Work at the site is anticipated to begin by November 1996, but no later than December 1996.

If you have any questions, or require additional information of this site, please contact me at (573) 751-4732.

Very truly yours,

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

David A. Shorr

Director

DAS:rln

Enclosures